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28 October 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 28 October 1968

The Director was downtown. DDCI was in the chair.

DD/I drew attention to an article on the Viet Cong on page eleven of this morning's Washington Post and indicated the article notes that CIA's enemy strength figures have been higher than those of the military.

DD/I advised that he will send a cable to [ ] explaining the background to the compromise between DIA and CIA on NVA strength figures.

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Godfrey advised that there is a crowd of some 2,000 or 3,000 students and workers demonstrating outside the presidential palace in Prague.

Godfrey reported that the Chinese have fired across the bow of a U. S. cargo ship departing Hong Kong.

D/ONE indicated he has learned informally that a request will be made by State for a SNIE on Panama. DDCI asked that we await the terms of reference before determining the fashion in which to respond to the request.

D/ONE noted that there will be a representatives meeting tomorrow on NIE 11-3 in which it is hoped that DIA's dissent can be boiled down to a single footnote, although the Army and Air Force are unlikely to be as cooperative.

DD/S reported that Idar Rimestad has asked to meet with the DD/S on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of an annual exchange between State and CIA of eight to ten officers for the purpose of promoting better mutual understanding.

Maury informed that a news story on the Soviet naval build-up in the North Sea, which is actually part of an annual Soviet naval exercise,

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may prompt Congressional inquiries, as may Joe Alsop's column on an alleged split in the Soviet leadership between doves and hawks.



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DD/S&T pointed out that, although there is the outside chance of a launch of a second manned vehicle, the current Soviet space shot seems to be a rather pedestrian affair.



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DD/P drew attention to the review of James Ridgeway's The Closed Corporation in The New York Times Book Review.

DDCI noted that the news release is out on the Civil Service Commission's directive on conducting background investigations.



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L. K. White

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